

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph on page 5, lines 17-37, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In FIG. 1, an image input apparatus 1 includes a manuscript board 2 which mounts thereon a target of reading M such as a manuscript and is formed of a transparent material such as glass, and an auto focus mechanism 3 which has an optical system and a photo acceptance unit and the like and can adjust a focal distance of the optical system. The auto focus mechanism 3 includes: a read optical unit 10; an auto focus (AF) unit 4; a piezoelectric device drive circuit 5; and a signal line 6. The read optical unit 10 is constituted by an optical source 11 for irradiating the manuscript M as the target of reading with a light ray through the manuscript board 2, a lens 12 upon which a reflected light ray from the manuscript M is incident through the manuscript board 2, a piezoelectric device 13 which is provided on the outer periphery side of the lens [[21]] 12 and adjusts the thickness of the lens 12 to be variable, a SELFOC lens 14 for passing therethrough a reading light ray incident upon the lens 12 as it is, and a charged coupled device (which will be abbreviated as CCD -Charge Coupled Device- hereinafter) sensor 15 as a photoelectric transfer device which photoelectric-transfers the reading light ray passed through the SELFOC lens 14.